



Approved For

Once the world's largest church, now a museum, Hagia Sophia was dedicated 1,446 years ago by Justinian, who built it on the foundation of an earlier church that

*National Geographic, December 1983*

had been destroyed, along with much of Constantinople, during riots that nearly deposed him. Muslim minarets rose after the city fell to the Ottoman Turks in 1453.

*The Byzantine Empire*

